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NUH
NUH
NO
B-BRAIN .

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DEAD

The mind-blowing end is approaching... Before the Beginning Man divulges the full truth behind the Enemies, the Second Enemy strikes Shirou and the group with a psychic attack! Deeply wounded, Shirou struggles to come to grips with the confines of his suppressed memory—and the harsh reality of his hyperkinetic journey.

"Dead End is not something that can be experienced with words and comments is a review... [It's] a breath of fresh air that awoke my senses and ignited those flames once again of why I love manga. Highly recommended and a fantastic read."

-AnimeonDVD.com



+ END

ISBN 1585321640



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EAN



www.TOKYOPOP.com



DEAD END™

SHOHEI MANABE

04



DEAD END

04



DEAD END

VOLUME 4

BY

SHOHEI MANABE



HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO

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as *The End* in 2002 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.
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ISBN: 1-59532-164-0

First TOKYOPOP printing: May 2006
10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
Printed in the USA





**The Big Moo Wearing
Construction Worker Clothes**
Age: 40
Subliminal: A man, I reserved
love the Mrs. Moo.
May possibly be linked to
Shirou's past.

Tattoo Guy

Age: 40
Shirou's friend
Made a living on a tattoo
actual
May possibly be linked to
Shirou's past.



DEAD



Poor Eyes

Age:
Shirou's friend
Made a living doing
May be linked to Shirou's past.

DEAD

Shirou's Buddies

The Third Enemy

Age: 11 years
aggressive, it would be
if he was 40, even
thinner his body like Shirou's.
It's about 100 cm tall, it may
bring behind a red hood.
Has every eye those of a cat.



It wants to hurt down
and kill Shirou and his friends.

The First Enemy Stitch Head

Age: 40

KILLED BY SHIROU



The Second Enemy

Age: 100 years
Up his appearance
world in 1% he support
he was 200 years
that was 100 years
it will make 1%
more for him.
He can do
he is a good for his
he is a good for his

Landlord

Age: 40
Mama's landlord
An eccentric
personality was
possibly too noisy for
her own good.



Momo

Age: 10
Mama's friend
Sharp tongue
appears to be
tough, but is
actually quite
timid.



Toto

Age: 10
Momo's friend, known
as "Toto" with Nana.
Her head's stuck up in
the clouds but, when the
need arises, she can be
brave and dependable.



Nana's Friends



Lucy
Age: 17
Shirou's love
She is the most
beautiful girl in
the world.
She is the most
beautiful girl in
the world.

Shirou pines for Lucy, and is trying to find her.



Shiba Shirou

Age: 17
Shirou's friend
Made a living doing
May be linked to Shirou's past.



The Second Moo Parrot

Age: 40
Shirou's friend
Made a living doing
May be linked to Shirou's past.



The Third Man Mr. Q

Age: 40
Shirou's friend
Made a living doing
May be linked to Shirou's past.

The Beginning Moo Mole Moo

Age: 40
Shirou's friend
Made a living doing
May be linked to Shirou's past.



Shirou's "Acquaintance From the Past"



The First Moo Gips (Chaggy)

Age: 40
Shirou's friend
Made a living doing
May be linked to Shirou's past.



The Fourth Moo (Woman) Nana

Age: 40
A kind woman with a
bright red hair.
She is the most
beautiful girl in
the world.



The Fifth Man Identity Unknown

Age: 40
Shirou's friend
Made a living doing
May be linked to Shirou's past.

STORY

An average guy living in the everyday grid, happens upon a mysterious and beautiful girl, her name's Lucy, and for Shirou, she's his dream girl. Spending time with Lucy, Shirou gets a sense of happiness-something he's never experienced until now. However, two days after their relationship, Shirou goes back to his apartment to find it soaked in blood and littered with pieces of his friends' corpses. On top of that, Lucy has disappeared. It is then, amidst all the carnage, that Shirou encounters a large, mysterious man.

Fleeing from an unknown, invisible threat, Shirou comes across "The Beginning Man" (aka, "Mole Man"), who informs Shirou that he has five other friends that he must find. Shirou has no memory of his past, much less his friends, but he heeds the Mole Man's words.

While trying to piece together his lost memories, Shirou gathers up his scattered "acquaintances from the past," hoping they will help him find Lucy. Shirou's adventure has just begun.

Just what is Shirou's connection with his "Acquaintances"? Who is their "Enemy" exactly? Will Shirou ever see Lucy again? With his world swirling in a mystery, Shirou's adventure accelerates to its finale!

CONTENTS

PART 16	ATTACK	9
PART 17	SURPRISE ATTACK	65
PART 18	REMINISCENCE	105
PART 19	LUCY 2	141
FINAL PART	IN THE END	189



WHERE
ARE WE
GOING?

WHERE
IS
THIS?

JUST A
LITTLE
FURTHER



DEAD



END





TWO
PEOPLE
DIED



WE'VE
BECOME
CASUALTIES

IT'S BEEN
SEVERAL
DAYS
SINCE THE
EXPLOSION
ON THE BOAT.
BUT THERE'S
STILL NO SIGN
OF "THEM"

YOU MEAN
FREE
SPIRITS



WIGGLE
WIGGLE



WIGGLE
WIGGLE





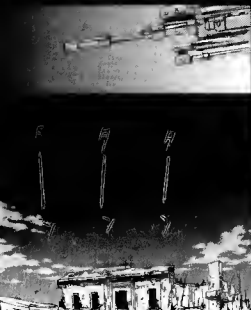


YEAH...

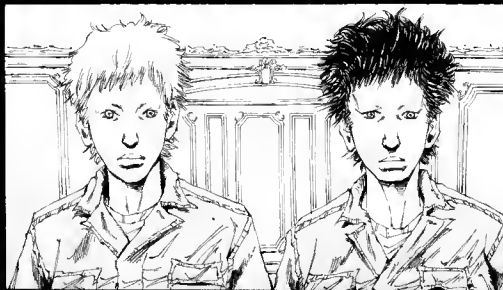
YOU
HEARD THE
RUMORS
ABOUT
THOSE
GUYS?

IT'S
LIKE THEY AIN'T
EVEN HUMAN





BLAM BLAM BLAM





BLAM



SPLAT















YUP

THIS IS
GOODBYE,
I GUESS...



SO WE'RE
GOING TO
ERASE ALL
MEMORIES
OF IT...

...AND
START
OVER
AGAIN.

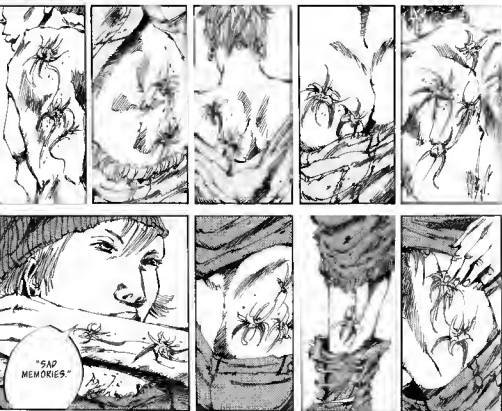
WE'VE
ALL DONE
SOME
PRETTY
NASTY
STUFF



IF WE
EVER SEE
EACH
OTHER
AGAIN..

...WE'LL
HAVE
SOMETHING
TO IDENTIFY
OURSELVES
WITH.

ALL WE
NEED TO
DO IS
SHOW OUR
TATTOOS.







OH, THAT'S RIGHT
I FORGET THAT THE
FURTHER YOU GET
FROM THE CITY
THE WORLD STARTS
LOOKING ALL
DIFFERENT

LIKE
WHAT?

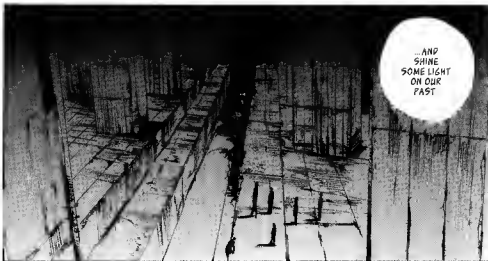
HERE WE
ARE

WE'VE BEEN
WALKING AT
A RATE OF 6
KILOMETERS
AN HOUR...FOR
30 HOURS
ALREADY.



...THE ONLY
GUY WHO CAN
EXPLAIN JUST
WHAT'S BEEN
GOING ON WITH
US...

HERE
IS
THE
GUY...



...AND
SHINE
SOME LIGHT
ON OUR
PAST









THE FIFTH MAN .
A STRANGE KID,
EXPRESSIONLESS,
NEVER SPEAKS



THESE GUYS
ALL HAVE
SOMETHING
WEIRD
ABOUT
THEM AND
WHAT LINKS
THEM ALL
TOGETHER
IS THAT
EACH
WORKED
FOR THE
BOSS



THE
THIRD
MAN
MISTER
G.



THE
SECOND
MAN
PARROT



THE
FIRST
MAN
GIPS.



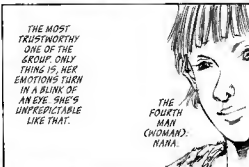
THE
BEGINNING
MAN. "MOLE
MAN."

A GUY I
CAN'T
BRING
MYSELF TO
TRUST.



THE MOST
TRUSTWORTHY
ONE OF THE
GROUP. ONLY
THING IS, HER
EMOTIONS TURN
IN A BLINK OF
AN EYE. SHE'S
UNPREDICTABLE
LIKE THAT.

THE
FOURTH
MAN
(WOMAN).
NANA.



...I
MISS
YOU.

LUCY...





... AND
ATTACKED US.
WHAT DO YOU
KNOW ABOUT
THAT?

ON OUR
WAY HERE,
A BUNCH
OF NORMAL
CITY FOLK
SUDDENLY
WENT
BERSERK...



IF HE WERE
CONTROLLING,
SAY, ONE
OR TWO, HE
COULD HAVE
THEM HANDLE
WEAPONS OR
EVEN CARRY OUT
CONVERSATIONS.



HE HAS THE
POWER TO
CONTROL
MINDS



THE
NURSE
WHO
ATTACKED
YOU...



SHIROU.

...ALONG
WITH THE
BARTENDER
AND THE
THREE
GURMEN, THEY
WERE ALL HIS
HANDWORK.

HOWEVER,
IN ORDER TO
CONTROL THAT
MANY PEOPLE
AT ONCE, HE
COULD MAKE
THEM DO ONLY
VERY SIMPLE
THINGS.



SOUNDS
LIKE THE
SECOND
ENEMY WAS
BEHIND IT.

* See Volume 7, Chapter 2



... THEN WHAT'S
STOPPING
HIM FROM
INFILTRATING
ONE OF US AND
DESTROYING US
FROM WITHIN?

IF
THAT'S
TRUE...



THIS USED TO BE A
STORAGE DEPOT FOR
UNUSED ATOMIC FUEL,
BUT THE MONEY FOR
ITS UPKEEP RAN OUT
A LONG TIME AGO AND
THE DEPOT WAS
SHUT DOWN.

I REVAMPED THE
PLACE, ALTERING
ITS APPEARANCE,
TO KEEP IT
UNDETECTABLE TO
THE ENEMY

GOOD
POINT
WHILE
YOU'RE
HERE,
THOUGH
YOU'RE
SAFE



TURN RIGHT
AND AT THE
END OF THE
HALL, YOU'LL
FIND THE
PANTRY.

FORGET THE
MEDICINE,
WHERE'S THE
FOOD?



OKAY,
GOT
IT.



K-
CRICK?





Q SURE
IS TAKING
A WHILE
WITH THE
FOOD.



I'LL GO SEE
WHAT'S
HOLDING HIM
UP

SO WHY
IS IT THE
ENEMY
FOUND
OUT
ABOUT US
WHEN IT
DID? WHY
NOW?

...AND
BEGAN
LIVING
ON OUR
OWN FOR
YEARS IN
SECRECY.

WE
PARTED
WAYS
ON THE
ISLAND.



THAT
DAY...





IS THERE
A MOLE
IN OUR
RANKS?!



ARE YOU
SERIOUS?!

WHERE'S
G AT?!

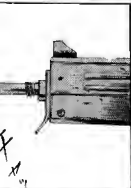
NUMAKE



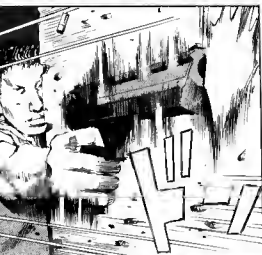
THE
PANTRY
IS ON
FIRE!!

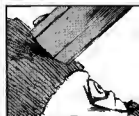


WE GOT AN
EMERGENCY!!

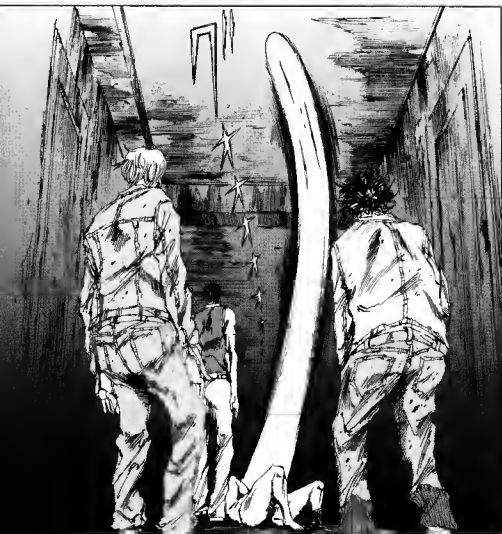


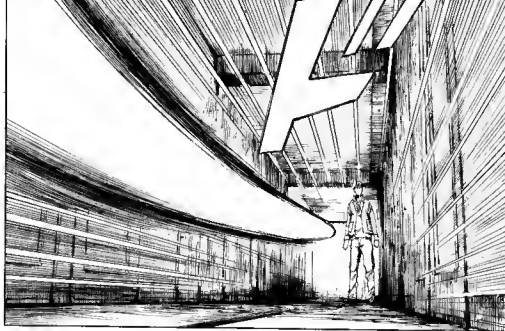






LOOK!







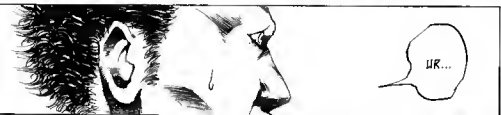














YOU'RE AS
GREEDY
AS THEY
COME!!

LIES!!



ARE YOU
AFRAID OF
LOSING
YOURSELF
TO HER?



YOU
LIKE
NANA,
DON'T
YOU?



JUST
LOOK
AT
YOU...



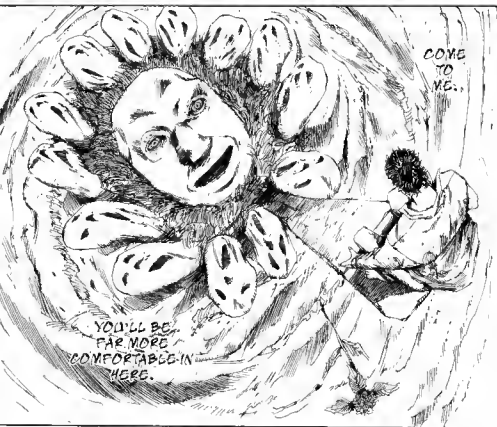
YOU'RE
HELPLESS.



YOU'RE
WEAK.



ADMIT
IT.



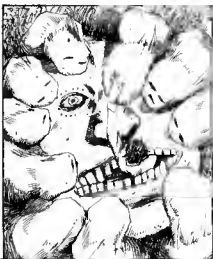


I WON'T ASK
FORGIVENESS.

I WON'T
APOLOGIZE
THAT
EASILY.

...AT LEAST
THAT MUCH
RESPECT.

I'LL SHOW
THOSE I
KILLED...











I GOTTA
SPEAK
MY
FINAL
WORDS,
AT
LEAST.

I CAN BARELY
PUT TOGETHER
THE WORDS TO
COMMUNICATE.

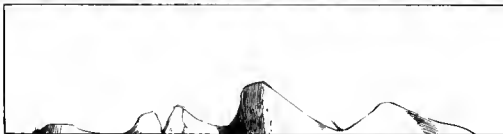
MY BRAIN'S
GETTING
DUMBER AND
DUMBER
BY THE
SECOND...

I CAN'T
EVEN
TALK
RIGHT...



...I
LOVE...

NANA...







THE ENEMY
LURKS OUTSIDE,
WAITING FOR US.

NOT
NOW!



I'VE GOT TO
BUY SOME
BIRD FOOD,
AND WHILE
I'M AT IT...

SHUT
IT.



...I'M
GONNA KILL
ME THAT
SECOND
ENEMY.

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NUH
NO
B-BRAIN .

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ALSO, I PICKED
THIS UP FROM
POCCHARI...THAT
THE BOSS OWNED
THE FIRST
ENEMY'S BASE OF
OPERATIONS.

THE FURTHER
AWAY YOU
GET FROM THE
SECOND ENEMY,
THE MORE
DIMINISHED HIS
POWER OVER YOU
BECOMES.

HIS POWER OF
MIND CONTROL
CORRESPONDS
DIRECTLY TO HOW
CLOSE HE IS TO
HIS TARGETS.

PART 17 SURPRISE ATTACK



THEN WE
PROCEED
ACCORDING TO
WHAT WE KNOW
ABOUT THIS
BUILDING.

FIRST OFF,
WE ARRANGE
OURSELVES IN A
CIRCLE AROUND THE
LOCATION WHERE
THE SECOND ENEMY
ATTACKED.

BECAUSE OF
THE BOSS
KNOWLEDGE
OF THE
UNDERWORLD
THE ENEMY...

WITHOUT MONEY
OR PASSPORTS
OUR OPTIONS
FOR WHERE
WE CAN HIDE
ARE SEVERELY
LIMITED

THERE ARE
TENANTS ON
THE FIRST
FLOOR A
PARKING LOT
ON THE FIRST
LEVEL OF THE
BASEMENT...

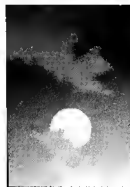
I'VE
GATHERED
THAT IN THE
BUILDING

...COULD
FIND US
EASILY.

...AND A
WAREHOUSE
ON THE
SECOND
BASEMENT
LEVEL.











WHAT'RE YOU
GRINNING
ABOUT?



YOU'RE
DISGUSTING.
THAT'S ALL.



NOTHING.

HMPH



WHAT
DID
YOU
SAY?



SEE?
DISGUSTING.



LET ME MAKE
THIS VERY
CLEAR TO YOU.

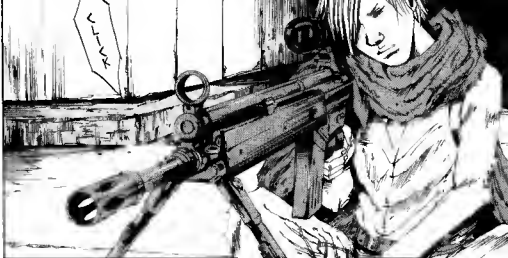


IN SIMPLE
WORDS:
I DON'T LIKE
WHEN PEOPLE
MAKE FUN OF ME.



WHAT'RE
YOU
GETTING SO
WORKED UP
ABOUT?





YOU BETTER
COVER MY
BACK GOOD
AND TIGHT,
GOT IT?

YO.



TCH.

HEY! YOU
IGNORING
ME?



WON'T
NEED
THESE.

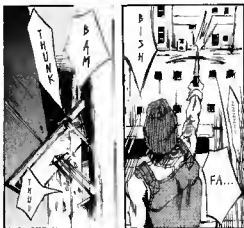
STAY
FOCUSED
ON KILLING
THE SECOND
ENEMY AND
THAT'S IT.



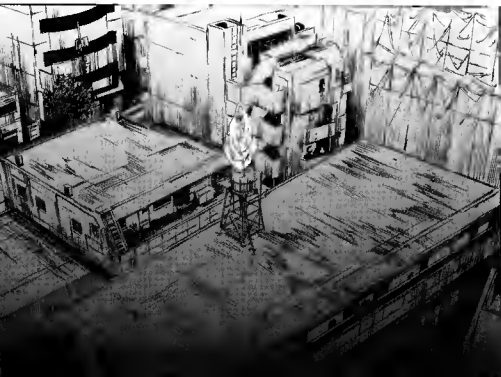
YOU'LL
HAVE TO
KILL ME
FIRST



I'M
GONNA
RIP YOUR
HEART
OUT.









THE ENEMY
INVADED G'S
MIND WHEN
HE WAS IN
THE PANTRY.

THE SECOND ENEMY'S METHOD
IS TO INVADE THE VICTIM'S
MIND AND TAKE COMPLETE
CONTROL OF IT.



THESE
STAIRS
ARE WAY
TOO LONG
AND
TWISTY



TMP
TMP
TMP

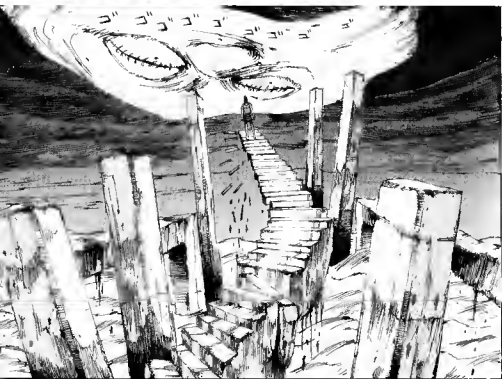
THIS IS
WEIRD.



FARROT
RESISTED
THE ENEMY,
AND NOW
HE'S A
VEGETABLE.



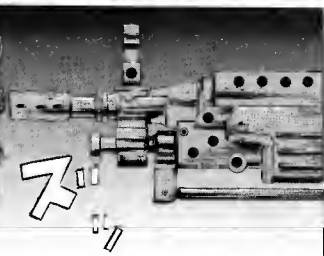
I'VE
GOTTA
STAY
SHARP
AND
ON THE
LOOKOUT.



HA!
THIS
IS
EASY!



AND WHEN WE
FIND THE ENEMY,
I'M GONNA TEAR
THAT FUCKER
APART!



WHAT
GIVES?



IT'S
JUST AN
ILLUSION!

DON'T
GIVE
IN TO
IT!







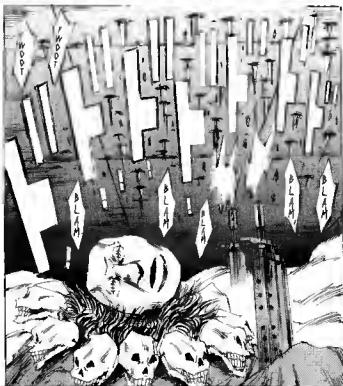
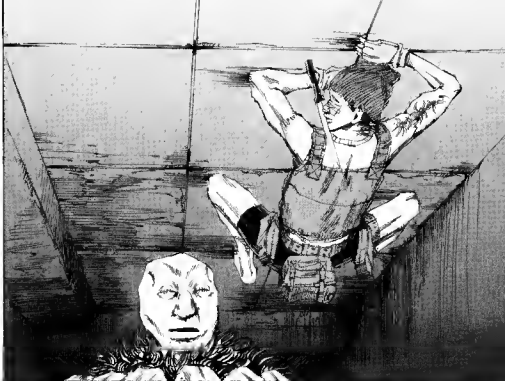
LOOKS
LIKE
IT...

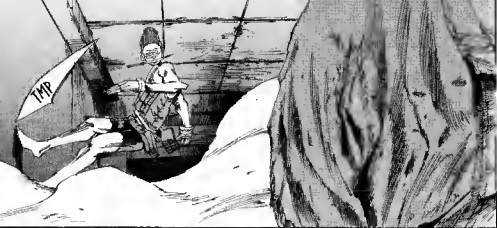
...STOPPED.



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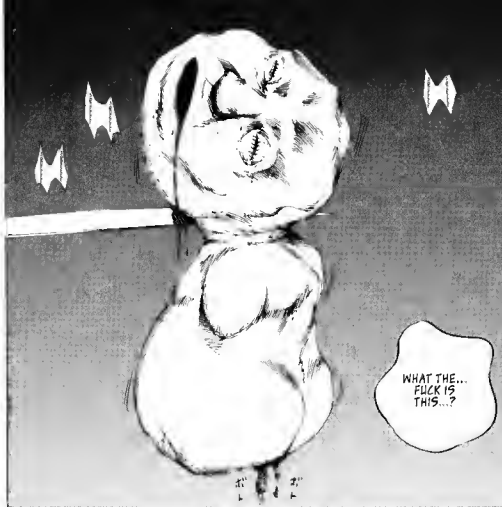






ERGH!!









NOW, NANA AND
THE OTHERS
ARE PROBABLY
WORRIED, SO I'M
GONNA HEAD ON
BACK.

MY
SHIFT'S
OVER.

HAND ME THE
MAP TO THE
HIDEOUT,
WOULD YOU?



OKAY, HANG
ON A SEC,
I'LL GET IT.

COME ON, I'M
TIRED. NOW YOU
GOTTA BOTHER ME
WITH YOUR SHIT?



YOU'VE
GOTTEN SO
OLD SO
FAST.

I'LL
LEAVE
IT FOR
LATER.



THERE
ARE SO
MANY
PEOPLE.



HERE
IS YOUR
MEMORY
THAT BAD?

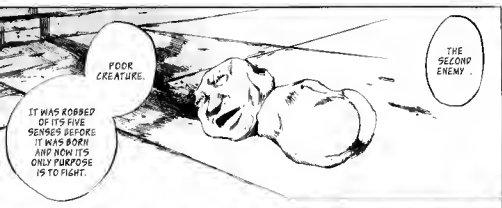


I'LL GO AFTER A
QUICK NAP. SEE
YOU LATER.



HMPH.

WHAT IS IT
NOW?





...I BECAME THE
SECOND ENEMY'S
SLAVE.

IT TOOK
CONTROL OF MY
MIND AND...



THEY WERE
ALL FORCED
TO SERVE HIM
WITHOUT SLEEP
OR NOURISHMENT
AND DIED WHEN
THEY WERE USED
UP.

THOSE ARE THE
SKULLS OF ALL
THE SLAVES
THAT PRECEDED
ME.



YES.



YOU.



I'M GLAD
YOU'RE
ALIVE.



SHIKOU.



I,
TOO...

THAT'S
BECAUSE
YOU'VE ALWAYS
BEEN SUPERIOR
TO ME...

WHEN THE
FIRST ENEMY
ATTACKED, YOU
RISKED YOUR
LIFE TO SAVE
ME.

...AM
USED
UP.



I'M GLAD THAT
YOU WERE
THE ONE WHO
SURVIVED.



WHAT?



ALL OF US IN
THE GROUP
SHARE THE
SAME GENES

FOR SOME
REASON, EVEN
OUR FACES
RESEMBLE EACH
OTHER'S.



CAN YOU
STAND UP?

HERE, LET
ME GIVE YOU
A HAND



COME ON!
LET'S GET OUT
OF HERE

CHEW
GNAW



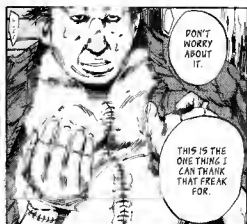
WHAT
IS HE
BABBLIN'
ABOUT?

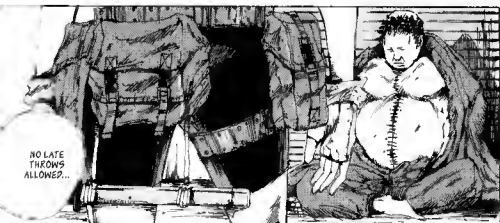
THEY DO
NOT.



FORGET I
MENTIONED
IT.

WELL, IT
DOESN'T
MATTER.





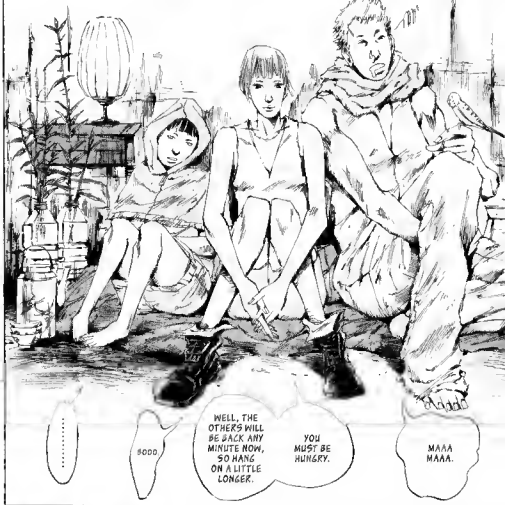
NO LATE
THROWS
ALLOWED...

I'LL FORGET IT ALL
LIKE IT NEVER EVEN
HAPPENED.

BUT I'LL FEEL
BETTER SOON
ANYWAY.

EVERYTHING BUT MY
BODY HURTS.

I DON'T LIKE
THIS FEELING.









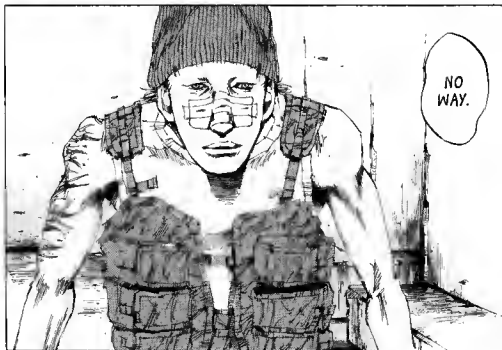












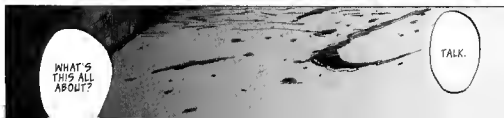
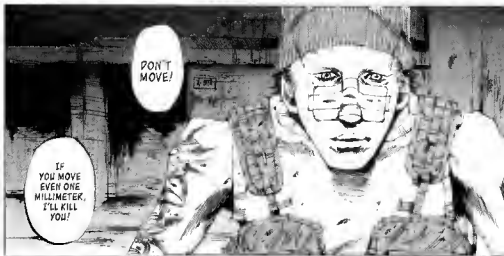
Manga-Sketchbook presents average person in irc

NUH
NUH
NO
B-BRAIN .

Manga-Sketchbook@ringside
<http://www.manga-sketchbook.org/>



PART 18 REMINISCENCE











WATCH OUT,
SHIROU!!

YOU'RE
LOOKING AT
THE THIRD
ENEMY!!





THE THIRD
ENEMY WAS
IN CONTROL
OF GIPS.



I'M
WITH
YOU.

WE'VE GOT
TO KEEP THE
THIRD ENEMY
FROM PULLING
THAT STUNT
AGAIN

OR ELSE
EACH OF US
RUNS THE
RISK OF
BEING TAKEN
OVER

...PLANTED SEEDS
OF FEAR WITHIN
US

THE THIRD
ENEMY...



HE WAS
ATTACKED
RIGHT AFTER
LEAVING Q

HE MUST
STILL BE
UP ON THAT

I'M GOING
OUT TO BRING
BACK GIPS.



NO POINT
GOING AFTER
HIM

I'M TELLING
YOU HE'S
DEAD.



CAN'T TRUST
THAT YOU
WON'T BE
COMPROMISED
BY THE ENEMY.



YOU
LEAVE
HERE
AND TRY
COMING
BACK
ALONE...

GIVE
GIPS
UP FOR
DEAD.

...I CAN'T
LET YOU IN
HERE AGAIN
WITH THE
REST OF
US



I'M
STILL
GOING

WHAT-
EVER.



BETWEEN THE
TWO OF US,
ESPECIALLY.

TRUST WAS
ALWAYS IN
SHORT SUPPLY
AROUND HERE
ANYWAY.



HOLD UP
I'LL GO WITH
YOU.



WE'LL
WATCH
OUR
BACKS.



BE ADVISED
THAT THE
THIRD
ENEMY ISN'T
OUR ONLY
PROBLEM



SURE
ABOUT
THAT?

OKAAAAAY.

LOOK AFTER
NANA WHILE
WE'RE GONE.

THE FIRST
ENEMY'S
STILL OUT
THERE. THE
ONE WHO
LAID WASTE
TO SHIROU'S
APARTMENT



SURE
AS
SHIT.





THIS
NIGHTMARE
HAS TAKEN
ME FURTHER
AND FURTHER
AWAY FROM
REALITY

EVER SINCE
I MET
LUCY...



MY REALITY
ITSELF WAS A
NIGHTMARE
ONE
MEANINGLESS
DAY AFTER
ANOTHER

BEFORE
I MET
LUCY...

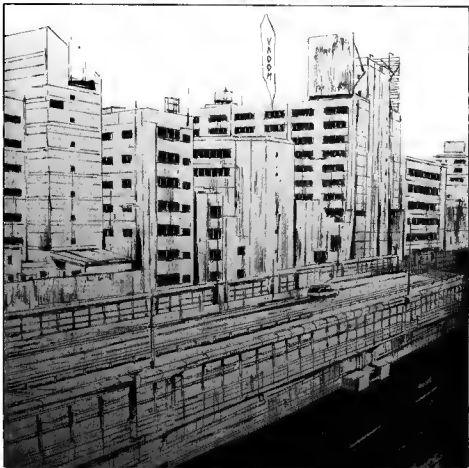


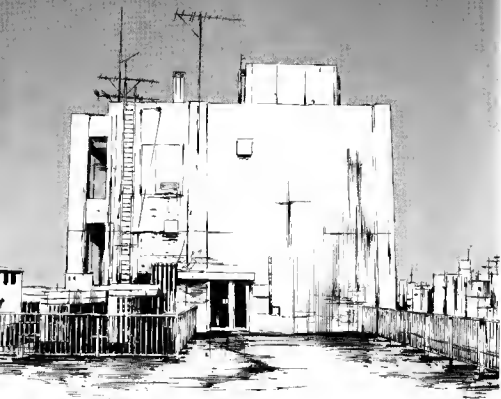
IT'S WHATEVER
WE'RE LOOKING
AT RIGHT NOW.
THAT'S REALITY.

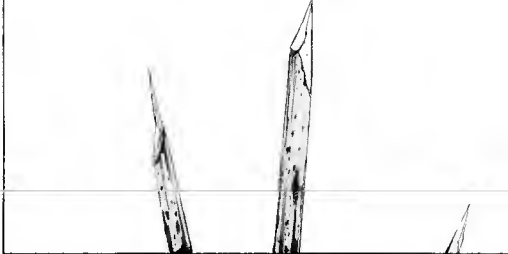


REFINE
REALITY.









OW.





HEY,
SHIROU?

BUT DID
WE FIND
WHAT
WE
WERE
LOOKING
FOR?

WE ALL
WENT OUR
SEPARATE
WAYS
THAT PAY
ON THE
ISLAND.



...AND
FORGET ALL
I ONCE KNEW
AND ALL THE
RESPONS-
IBILITIES I
ONCE HAD

DECIDED
IT'S BEST TO
PUT THE PAST
BEHIND YOU.



IF I COULD, JUST
GIVE ALL THAT
UP.



.. LIFE
WOULD
BECOME
VERY EASY.



WHY?

I
ENVY
YOU.

....JUST A
LOWARD WHO
CAN'T EVEN
GET UP THE
NERVE TO CALL
YOU UP.

I'M...

THE
TRUTH
IS...



I WAS
PETRIFIED
WITH THE
FEAR ..

...OF
ASKING
YOU OUT
AND BEING
REJECTED.



AAAH...



AND I ADMIRER
YOU FOR
SO BOLDLY
EXPRESSING
WHAT YOU
WANTED

...I'D GONE
OUT AND
SEEN THE
WORLD AS
THE SUN
WENT DOWN...

IF
ONLY.

MUCH
MORE.

I
SHOULD'VE
TAKEN
CARE TO
EXPERIENCE
MORE.

THE THINGS
THAT MAKE
LIFE SO
BEAUTIFUL.

AND
TOUCHED
THE
THINGS
I RENIED
MYSELF.

BUT I'LL
NEVER
GET
THAT
CHANCE
NOW.







NOW
LET'S
GO
HOME.

I CAME
TO GET
YOU.



...DIDN'T
TELL THE
ENEMY
ANYTHING

I
KNOW.



I...



WAIT
HERE.

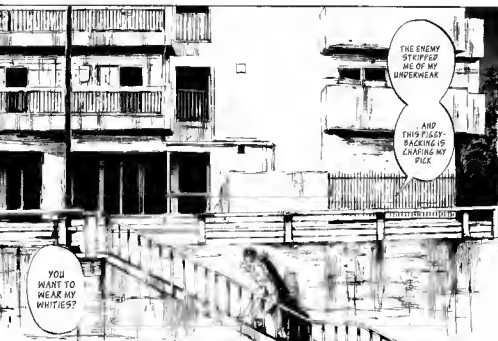
I'LL GET
Q AND
WE'LL GET
YOU OUTTA
HERE ON A
STRETCHER





YEAH?

HEY,
SHIROU?



YOU
WANT TO
WEAR MY
WHITIES?

THE ENEMY
STRIPPED
ME OF MY
UNDERWEAR

AND
THIS FIGGY-
BACKING IS
ENAFING MY
PICK



SOUNDS
A BIT
GROSS.

I WAS
JUST
JOKING,
YOU IDIOT!

NOW SUCK
IT UP
AND STAY
QUIET.





I'LL
SAY.

THEY SURE
TOOK A
BEATING.
HUH?

A
NASTY-
ASS
BEATING

THAT THE
FIRST
ENEMY...

...THE ONE WHO
DESTROYED YOUR
APARTMENT...

FIGURED
WHAT
OUT?

BY NOW,
I HOPE
YOU'VE
FIGURED IT
OUT.

BY THE
WAY...

SHIROU?

WHAT
IS IT?



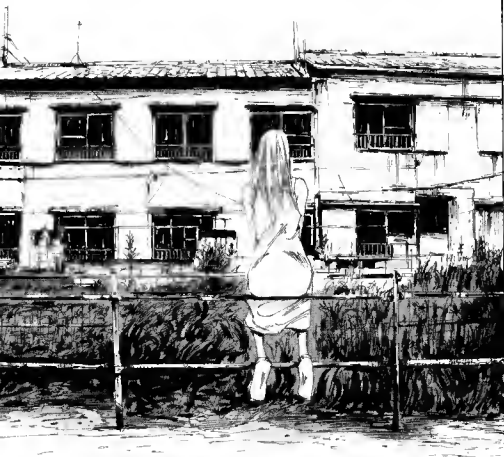
SHE
CAME
TO KILL
YOU.

THAT
WAS
LUCY.









NOW...

IT'S
PITCH
BLACK
IN
HERE.

WHERE
ARE YOU?

AND IT
SMELLS
FUNKY.
AND IT'S
COLD...

Manga-Sketchbook presents average person in irc

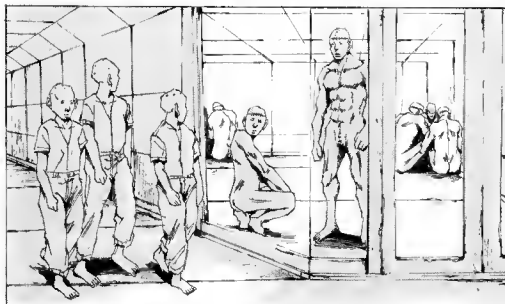
NUH
NUH
NO
B-BRAIN .

Manga-Sketchbook@ringside
<http://www.manga-sketchbook.org/>





THEY'LL
YELL AT
US FOR
COMING
IN HERE.





LOOK AT THAT.



THEY SAY
THOSE ARE
THE LOW-
GRADE ONES
THAT WERE
TAMPERED
WITH AFTER
BIRTH.

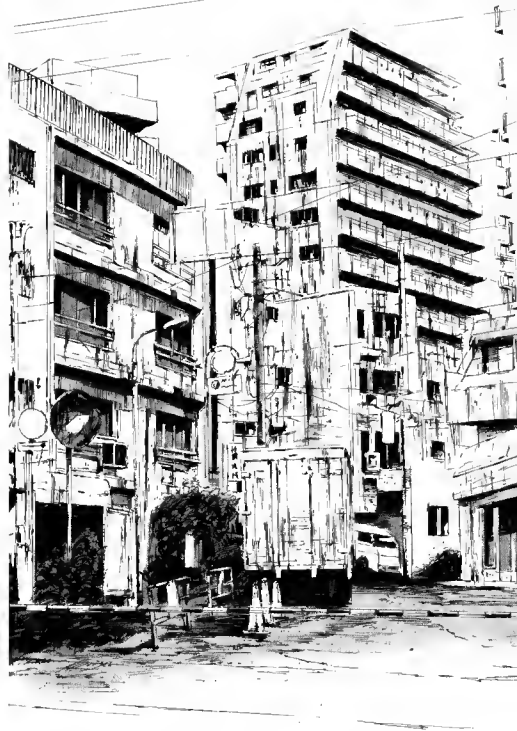


THAT'S
THE NEXT
GENERATION.



IF IT
SUCCEEDS...

...WE'RE IN
THE SCRAP
HEAP.



SHIROU.



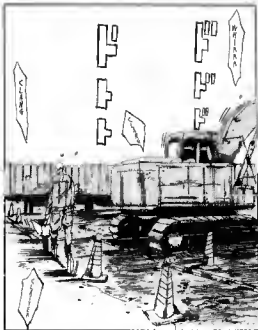
FROM NOW
ON, YOU'LL
ASSUME HIS
NAME.

THAT NAME
WAS TAKEN
OFF THE BIRTH
CERTIFICATE OF
A HOMELESS
VAGRANT.

SHIBA
SHIROU.
AGE 38.





























SINCE
ASSUMING
THIS NEW
IDENTITY,
LIFE'S NEVER
FELT EASIER,
AND NOW
I'M AFRAID
OF LEAVING
IT.

IT'S TOO
SIMPLE AND
BORING.




THEY
LOOK
AFRAID
OF ME.
DO THEY
THINK
I HATE
THEM?

I'M
AFRAID.



IT'S SO
MUCH EASIER
TO HAVE NO
GOALS IN LIFE
AND JUST
GIVE UP.



DOESN'T EVERYBODY
ELSE DO IT? WE ALL
LEARN TO STEP IN LINE,
WORK THE DAILY GRIND
AND LOOK DOWN AT
ANYBODY WHO CHOOSES
TO GO HIS OWN WAY.



I FEEL NUMB
TO IT ALL,
ESPECIALLY...

...THAT CORNY
OLD SAYING
ABOUT HOW
"EVERY DAY IS A
BLESSING."

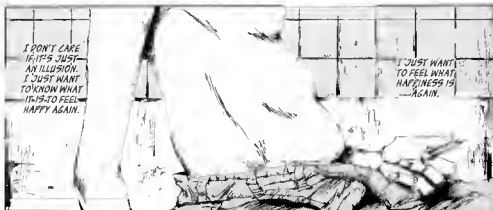


I DON'T
CARE IF
IT'S A
CHILD'S
PIPE
DREAM.



...IS TO BE
IN THE GRIND
BECAUSE YOU'VE
LOST THE
ABILITY TO FEEL!

WHAT'S
EVEN
WORSE...



I DON'T CARE
IF IT'S JUST
AN ILLUSION.
I JUST WANT
TO KNOW WHAT
IT IS TO FEEL
HAPPY AGAIN.

I JUST WANT
TO FEEL WHAT
HAPPINESS IS
AGAIN.



I'M
SO
SAD.

I WANT
TO BE A
PART OF
SOMETHING
BEAUTIFUL.



I'VE BEEN
SEARCHING
FOR
SOMETHING
I MAY NEVER
FIND.

I WANT TO BE
SOMEWHERE
ELSE, WITH
SOMEBODY
WHO GIVES
ME THAT
FEELING.



HER
NAME
WAS
LUCY

SUDDENLY,
A WOMAN
FELL OUT
OF THE
SKY.





WHAT'RE
YOU DOING?

LOOKING
AT THE
WALL.



ACTUALLY,
YEAH.

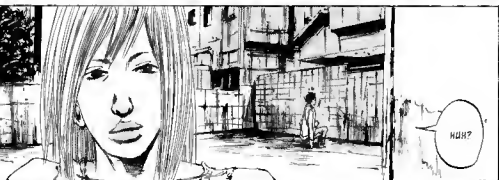
HAVING
FUN?

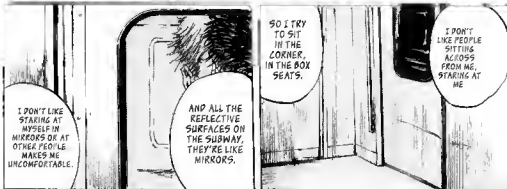
THAT'S
RIGHT. THE
WALL.

THE
WALL?



?





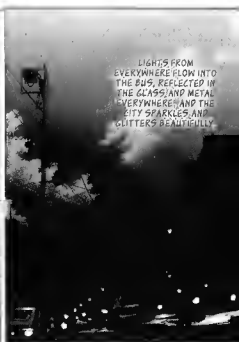




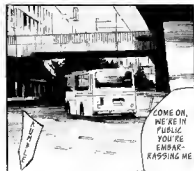
I LIKE NIGHT
BUSES.



REFLECTIONS
APPEAR IN THE
GLASS AND METAL
EVERYWHERE AND
THE CITY SPARKLES
AND GLITTERS
BEAUTIFULLY.



REFLECTIONS
APPEAR IN THE
GLASS AND METAL
EVERYWHERE AND
THE CITY SPARKLES
AND GLITTERS
BEAUTIFULLY.





YOU
ENDED
THE
WORLD.



BOOM.



WHO'S
HE
TALKING
TO?

MUMBLE
MUMBLE.

IT'S
THAT
GUY...

HUH?



TODAY'S
BEHIND US.





HIS LIPS
ARE
SMILING.



BUT HIS EYES ARE
EXPRESSIONLESS.
ALMOST DEAD.



SHIROU,
YOU
DIRTY
POG.

HEH
HEH
HEH

WHAT'AT
YOU
THINKING,
BRINGING
A CHICK
IN HERE?



WHAT'RE
YOU GONNA
DO?

YOU'RE
UNDERESTIMATING
THIS MONSTER AS
YOUR ENEMY.



POCCARI'S
MOURNING

BECAUSE
SHIROU HAD
TO KILL HIS
LOVER.



SHE
CUTE?

OH,
HER?



LUCY...

...CAME TO
KILL YOU.



THAT GUY'S
WEIRD.
THERE'S
SOMETHING
NOT NORMAL
ABOUT HIM.
WHO THE
HELL IS HE?



IS THIS
IDIOTIC
FACE
REALLY
MINE?



I'VE COME
TO THINK
OF THE TV
AS MY SOLE
CONNECTION
TO THE
WORLD.

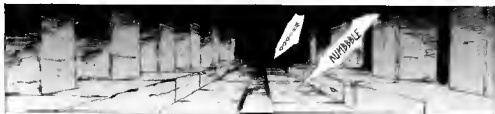


I DON'T
WANT TO
LOOK AT
IT.



I
DON'T
WANT
TO
LOOK.











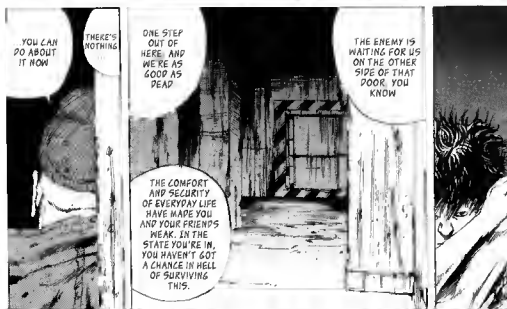


LET'S GET
OUT OF
HERE.

AS LONG
AS WE'RE
HERE, WE'RE
PUTTING
THE OTHERS
AT RISK



AND GO
WHERE?



...YOU CAN
DO ABOUT
IT NOW

THERE'S
NOTHING

ONE STEP
OUT OF
HERE, AND
WE'RE AS
GOOD AS
DEAD

THE COMFORT
AND SECURITY
OF EVERYDAY LIFE
HAVE MADE YOU
AND YOUR FRIENDS
WEAK. IN THE
STATE YOU'RE IN,
YOU HAVEN'T GOT
A CHANCE IN HELL
OF SURVIVING
THIS.

THE ENEMY IS
WAITING FOR US
ON THE OTHER
SIDE OF THAT
DOOR. YOU
KNOW



PARROT'S
LOST HIS
MIND AND
HIS SPIRIT.



NANA'S BREATHING
IS LABORED.



GIPS IS
INCAPACITATED. HE
CAN'T DO MUCH ELSE
BUT STARE AT THE
CEILING.



I WON'T
SAY A WORD



GO TO
SLEEP
ALREADY.



AND
AREN'T
YOU A
CHIPPER
ONE?



S
I
T



COUGH

WHEEZE

WHEEZE

COUGH

HUFF
HUFF

PANT
PANT

HUFF
HUFF



WATER...

WHEEZE

WHEEZE

HUFF

HUFF

MUST
HAVE
WATER



W
I
P

HUFF

HUFF

WHEEZE

WHEEZE



C
L
I
C
K







I WANT
TO SAVE
EVERYONE.

I JUST
WANT
TO
SAVE
THEM.



IF IT MEANS
SACRIFICING EVERYBODY
ELSE TO
SAVE THEM.



WHAT
A BIG
MISTAKE.

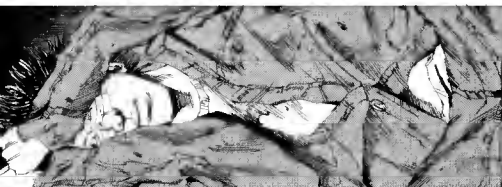
A close-up of a person's face, looking directly at the viewer. They are wearing a dark hood that frames their face. The person has dark hair with bangs and a serious expression.

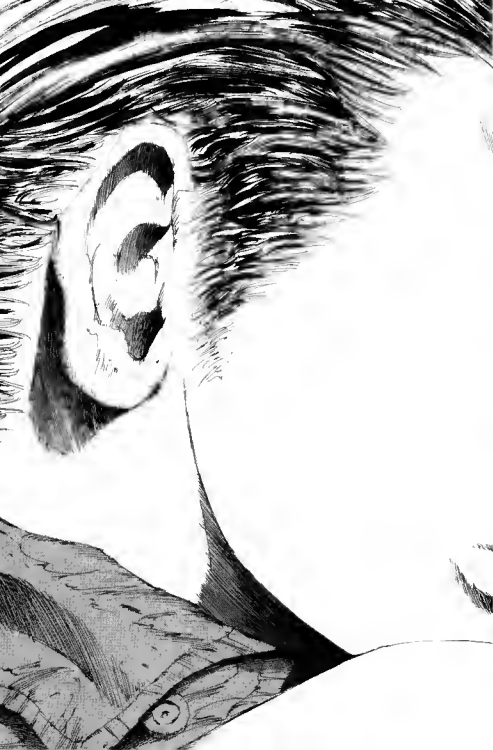
SINCE THAT
DAY WE
PARTED ON THE
ISLAND..

...IT SEEMS ALL
OF US HAVE BEEN
UNHAPPY WITH
HOW OUR LIVES
HAVE GONE.

WHAT WILL
YOU DO...

ONCE
YOU SAVE
THEM?







DEAD END



#Manga-Sketchbook@IrcHighway

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FINAL PART IN THE END



WHO
WAS IT
AGAIN?



WHAT
ARE WE
DOING
HERE?

HUH?



WHO ARE
YOU?





WHAT
DO I
WANT?

I'VE BEEN
LOOKING
FOR YOU
THIS WHOLE
TIME.



ALWAYS.

ALWAYS.



DID I
DREAM
THAT?



I DON'T
CARE
IF IT'S
REAL OR
A DREAM
ANYMORE.



IT'S
ALREADY
...



SHIROU



...ALL
OVER.





...WHY HASN'T
THE ENEMY
MADE A MOVE
YET?

BUT...

THE ENEMY
COULD DESTROY
US RIGHT NOW IF
IT WANTED



OUT
WITH IT
ALREADY!

WE WANT
TO HEAR IT
STRAIGHT! TELL
US EVERYTHING
YOU KNOW!

YEAH, WHY DON'T
THEY JUST KICK
THE POOR DOWN
AND CHARGE AT
US?

YOU THINK
THEY'RE HIDING
THEIR TIME,
HOPING WE DIE
OR KILL EACH
OTHER OFF IN
HERE, AND AVOID
A MESSY FIGHT?

OKAY,
HERE
GOES.





THEY WANT
OUR DATA



DATA?
WHAT DO
YOU MEAN?



AH!



BECAUSE ITS
MANAGEMENT HAD
BEEN SLOPPY AND
CORRUPT THE
FACILITY ENDED UP
CONTAMINATING
THIS ENTIRE ZONE
AND IT WAS SIMPLY
ABANDONED



THIS SITE
WAS ONCE AN
UNDERGROUND
STORAGE FACILITY
FOR HIGH-LEVEL
RADIOACTIVE
WASTE.

FROM OUTSIDE,
IT LOOKED LIKE IT
WAS SHUT DOWN
BECAUSE OF
BUDGET PROBLEMS,
BUT IN TRUTH...



THE
GOVERNMENT
THEN GATHERED
UP ALL THE
INFECTED
RESIDENTS OF
THE ZONE ..

..AND INITIATED
BIOLOGICAL
EXPERIMENTS
ON US.



MANKIND HAS
CREATED A
MOUNTAIN OF
ENVIRONMENTAL
DEVASTATION.

THERE ARE
SCIENTISTS
WHO SAY THAT,
AT THIS RATE,
MANKIND WILL
DIE OUT IN
1,000 YEARS.

WARS,
NUCLEAR BOMB
TESTING,
POWER PLANT
ACCIDENTS ..

ALL OVER
THE WORLD,
RADIOACTIVE
CONTAMINATION
HAS INCREASED.



YOU
MEAN
WE WAS
GUINEA
PIGS?

THE ORIGINAL PLAN
WAS TO DESIGN A NEW
SPECIES OF HUMANS,
ONE THAT COULD
SURVIVE IN EVEN
THE MOST POLLUTED
ENVIRONMENTS.

WE WERE USED
AS FIGHTING
MACHINES.



BUT AS WE
WERE BEING
TRANSPORTED FOR
EXTERMINATION
WE DISCOVERED
WE EACH HAD
A WILL A
CONSCIOUSNESS
OF OUR OWN, AND
WE DETERMINED
TO LIVE.

YEAH. AND THEN
THEY DESIGNED
WORSE MONSTERS
TO REPLACE US
LIKE LUCY.



I WATCHED
YOU FROM THE
SHADOWS, AND
KEPT AN EYE ON
YOUR PROGRESS

WE WANTED TO LIVE
IN THE WORLD WITH
A CLEAN SLATE.
SO WE ERASED OUR
MEMORIES OF OUR
OLD LIVES AND ALL
THAT HAPPENED
TO US

COMPLETELY
GETTING
RID OF THE
PAST...

DON'T
MEAN
YOU'RE ANY
HAPPIER
OR BETTER
ADJUSTED

IT MIGHT'VE
SEEMED LIKE
WE WERE
DOING OKAY,
GETTING BY IN
THE WORLD.

BUT I
CONSTANTLY
FELT
HORRIBLE ..
LETHARGIC,
CONFUSED,
NEVER AT
EASE

AS TIME
PASSED,
YOU MORE
FULLY
ADJUSTED
AND FIT
INTO
SOCIETY.

AND THERE
WAS NO
NEED FOR ME
ANYMORE.



SHIROU, YOU SAY
YOU WERE UNEASY,
BUT, AS I WATCHED
YOU DRINKING YOUR
CANNED COFFEE
ON YOUR BREAK AT
WORK, I COULDN'T
HELP BUT ENVY YOU.

I BEGAN TO FEEL
CUT OFF, LIKE
SOMEONE LEFT
BEHIND.



THAT'S
NOT HOW
IT WAS!



DID THAT ENVY
TURN INTO
HATRED THEN?
DID YOU RAT
US OUT TO THE
ENEMY?



THE PURPOSE OF
OUR LIVES WAS
TO FUNCTION
AS RESEARCH
SUBJECTS RIGHT
TO THE VERY END



... WAS TO
SERVE THE
HUMAN RACE.

THE SOLE
REASON
FOR OUR
EXISTENCE...





WELL, TOO
LATE FOR
THAT.



NO.



WE MAY
HAVE
OUTLIVED
OUR
PRIMARY
FUNCTION

... BUT
I DON'T
WANT US
TO DIE.



I DON'T
THINK WHAT
I WAS DOING
WAS WRONG.

I WAS
INTERESTED
IN THE
INDIVIDUAL
IDENTITIES
YOU'D
CREATED FOR
YOURSELVES



THERE'S
STILL A
CHANCE WE
CAN BEAT
THIS

IT'S NOT
TOO LATE



SECRETS?



THIS FACILITY
STILL HAS A FEW
SECRETS UP ITS
SLEEVE.



...HOW?



PRECISELY

YOU MEAN
BOMBS
MADE OF
RADIOACTIVE
WASTE?



IT ALSO STORED
OUR COUNTRY'S
STOCKPILE
OF DEGRADED
URANIUM
BOMBS.



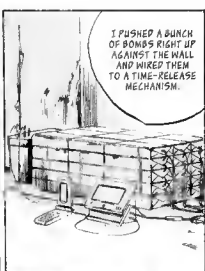
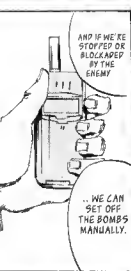
AND HOW
EXACTLY DO
YOU PROPOSE
WE DO THAT?

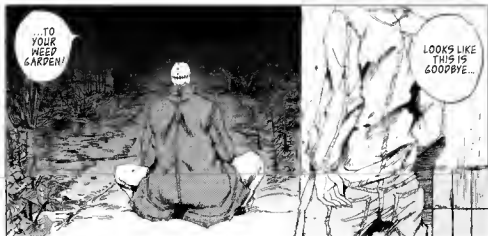


WE CAN BLOW
THE ENEMY
SKY-HIGH
WITH THESE
WEAPONS!



ON THE OTHER
SIDE OF THIS
WALL IS THE
STORAGE
ROOM FULL OF
URANIUM BOMBS,
PACKED IN LIKE
SARDINES







NOT TO
MENTION IT'S
BEEN EXPOSED
TO RADIATION.
IT WON'T LIVE
THAT LONG
ANYWAY.



EVEN IT DOES
GET OUT,
THERE'S NO WAY
IT CAN SURVIVE
ON ITS OWN.



CAN IT
REALLY GET
OUT THAT
WAY?



HE'S ONE TOUGH
BIRD. ONCE IT
FLIES OUT IN
THE OPEN, THE
FRESH AIR WILL
CLEAN OUT ALL
THAT NASTY
RADIATION.

IT'LL GET
OUT!

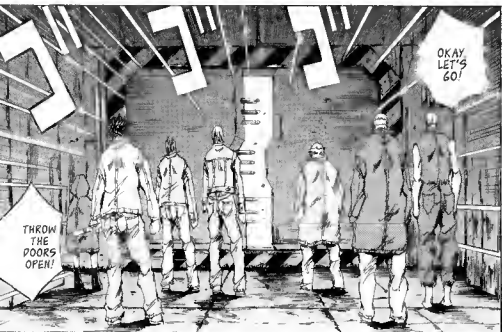
IT'LL BE
OKAY!



...BUT LET'S
GIVE IT
A GO.

I DON'T
KNOW IF WE
STAND A
GHOST OF
CHANCE...













...I GET TO
SEE YOU
AGAIN

LUCY...









... 'CAUSE THEY WERE ALL STRAYS, THEY LOVE LIVING OUTDOORS.

THESE CATS THAT NANA LEFT US..

YEAH..

ISN'T THIS GREAT?

YEP.

HEH, YEAH.

MY MOM DOESN'T LIKE THEM IN THE HOUSE ANYWAY.



TIME TO GO HOME!

WHAT'S A FAMILY REGISTRAR?

THIS IS JUST A RUMOR, BUT YOU KNOW WHAT I HEARD FROM THE TEACHER? THAT NANA WASN'T EVEN HER REAL NAME. AND HER FAMILY REGISTRAR WAS TOTALLY FAKE.

THAT DAY WAS ROUGH, REMEMBER?

MOMO, YOUR DAD'S A REALLY NICE GUY.

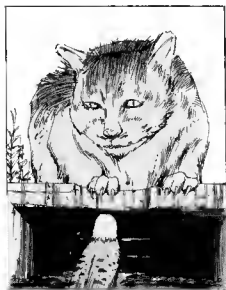
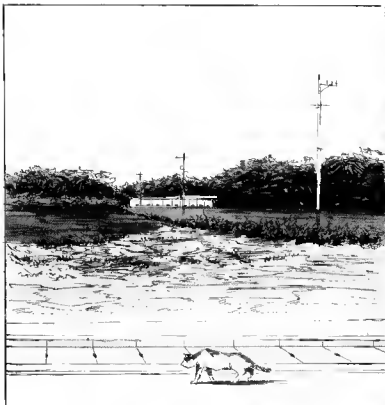
SURE WAS.

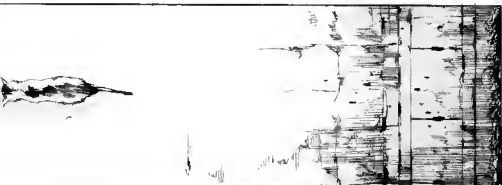
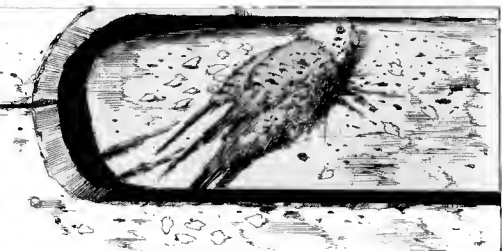
M E D D O W

YEAH

WHenever I LEAVE, I ALWAYS GET LONELY.

WE WENT SHOPPING WITH NANA AND THEN THAT GUY STOPPED US. GROSS!





15 MINUTES BEFORE THE DOORS OPENED



IT'LL BE A
CONVERSATION
THAT
TRANSCENDS
WORDS

USING THE KID'S
TELEPATHIC POWERS,
WE CAN USE MENTAL
IMAGES TO DIRECTLY
COMMUNICATE WITH
EACH OTHER.



THIS
COULD BE
IT FOR US
90..

...LET'S
JUST TAKE
OUR TIME
AND TALK.



WHOSE
IMAGE IS
THIS?



WHERE
ARE WE?



IT'S NOT
'CAUSE I'M
DOWN-AND-
OUT!



WHEN I FEEL
DOWN-AND-
OUT, I GRAB
HOLD OF
WHATEVER'S
NEAREST TO
ME.

NO, I
GET
IT!



BOOOOORING

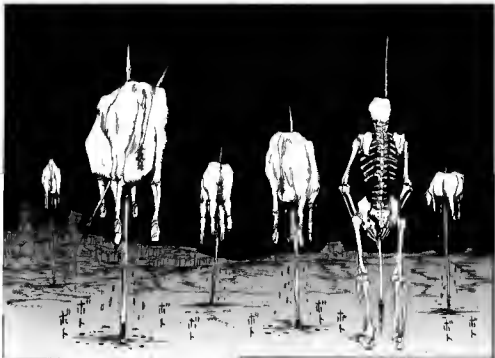


MINE!

NOW, THIS IS
ONE BORING
LANDSCAPE.











I CAN
ONLY
SEE A
DARK
FUTURE.

AND THE
GENERATIONS
BORN AFTER US
ARE GOING TO
BE MISERABLE,
PAYING FOR THE
MISTAKES WE'RE
MAKING TODAY.

EVEN NOW,
WE'RE WASTING
AWAY OUR
WORLD'S
RESOURCES
WHILE WE LIVE
OUT OUR LIVES
IN IGNORANCE
AND IDLENESS.



WE'LL
ADAPT TO
THE WORLD
NO MATTER
HOW WE
CHANGE IT.

THE NAME
OF THE
GAME HAS
ALWAYS BEEN
ADAPTATION.



AND A SPECIES
OF HUMANITY
THAT CAN
SURVIVE EVEN
THE HARSHTEST OF
ENVIRONMENTS
MIGHT ONE DAY BE
BORN



WE MIGHT
EVEN WAGE
WAR ON OTHER
WORLDS.



THINKING
PESSIMISTICALLY
IS ALWAYS THE
EASY WAY TO GO

THAT SPRING
WAS THE
RAINWATER
THAT HAD
FLOWED
DOWN FROM
MOUNTAINS
10,000

YEARS AGO,
COLLECTED
UNDERGROUND
THEN, FINALLY,
BURST-OUT.

I ONCE SAW
ON TV HOW A
SPRING BEGAN
GUSHING OUT OF
THE CENTER OF A
DESERT.

-I COULDN'T
BELIEVE HOW
BEAUTIFUL
IT WAS.

THERE
WERE SO
MANY FISH
SWIMMING
AROUND
IN THAT
SPRING.

...I'M
GLAD I
FOUND ONE
MOMENT OF
PURPOSE
BEFORE I
DIED.

FOR SOMEONE
WHO LAZED
AROUND
AND FELT
DIRECTIONLESS
ALL HIS LIFE...

THERE ARE
THINGS OUT
THERE THAT
GO BEYOND
MY WILDEST
IMAGINATION.

EVEN
THOUGH
I'M NOT
THERE AT
THIS VERY
MOMENT...



I'M NOT LEAVING
THIS WORLD
LIKE SOME
THOUGHTLESS
FOOL



THINKING
POSITIVELY CAN BE
TOUGH BECAUSE
THINGS DON'T
ALWAYS TURN OUT
HOW YOU WANT
THEM TO.



...WE'VE GOTTA
BE SURE THIS IS
SOMETHING WE ALL
WANT TO DO.

THAT'S
WHY...



WHAT?





WHEN WE GET
OUTSIDE AND
PUT ALL THIS
BEHIND US,
LET'S ALL MEET
SOMEWHERE
AND GRAB A
DRINK.

I LOVE
YOU
GUYS!





